

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Prior to this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-10 were pending. In this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-8 are canceled, and remaining claims 9 and 10 are pending and subject to examination on the merits. No new matter is added.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



Patrick R. Jewik
Reg. No. 40,456

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 415-576-0200
Fax: 415-576-0300
Attachments
PRJ:lyk
60037592 v1